GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1955
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2008
RELIGIOUS TOURISM
Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided financial assistance to the State Governments for promotion of religious tourism and the infrastructure development for religious places;

(b) if so,the funds allocated during each of the last three years and the current year State /UT-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has sanctioned projects of religious tourism during the last three years to Maharashtra;

(d) if so,the project-wise details during the above said period;

(e) the details of projects under consideration during the current financial year;and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to promote religious tourism in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT.AMBIKA SONI)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e) & (f):Development and promotion of tourism including infrastructure development at religious places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, however,provides financial assistance to States/Union Territories for tourism projects based on the proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and inter se priority.Details of projects sanctioned in various States/ Union Territories including Maharashtra during the last three years and the current year (up to September 2008) are at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.A list of projects sanctioned for the State of Maharashtra for development and promotion of tourism including religious tourism during the last three years is at Annexure-III.

In addition,a project of Rs.299.00 crore (approx.) for Ajanta−Ellora conservation and tourism development phase-II with the loan assistance from Japanese Bank of International Cooperation is also being implemented.